

COUNTRY Romania REPORT NO. 25X1TOPIC Soviet and Rumanian Troops and Military Installations in Bucharest 25X1EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED 20 April 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 30 October 1951, the Hotel Paris, a seven-story undamaged building at 21 Strada Academiei in Bucharest, was occupied by Soviet officers and their families. Every morning, 2 or 3 trucks would pick up the officers in front of the hotel and bring them back about 5 p.m. Residents believed they were air force officers who were daily transported to an airfield. Other multiple-story buildings which, during 1951, were also occupied by Soviet military personnel, probably air force personnel and their families, were on either side of a narrow street connecting Strada Academiei and Calea Victoriei; Hotel Paris was located on the north side.
2. Soviet restaurants and a Soviet motion picture theater were located in the former German Liedertafel at the intersection of Strada Academiei and Strada Bis.Mnei. There was no contact between Soviet officers and their families and Rumanians. Except for Rumanian clearing personnel, no Rumanian men or women were employed at Soviet installations.
3. Prior to October 1951, Soviet officers and soldiers were continuously observed at the former Britannia, recently called Dumeria, a multiple-story dwelling and business house on the west side of Bul. Nicolae Balcescu, formerly Bul. Bratianu, at the corner of Strada Bis.Mnei. It could not be determined whether a military office or apartments were located there. The former Arta dancing room on the south side of Strada Batistei east of Strada Nic.Pilipescu served as place of amusement for Soviet military personnel. Prior to early 1951, a building on Strada Pilipescu, north of the junction with Strada Batistei, was occupied by Soviet military personnel. It was completely torn down; a new building was under construction in the fall of 1951.

CLASSIFICATION

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~Document No. 6No Change in Class. ☒☐ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS

Auth.: HR 70-2

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- 25X1 4. [redacted] some buildings in the area of Strada Nic. Filipescu and Strada Matistei were occupied by Romanian military personnel and knew that trucks and sedans of a Romanian unit were parked in the former Michalescu garages, recently called Vasili Conta, which was guarded by military sentries.
5. The new Romanian Ministry of the Interior on either side of Strada Academiei southeast of the former Royal Castle was still under construction in October 1951. Some officers of this ministry were on the west side of Calea Victoriei. Strada Academiei was restricted to civilian traffic from Strada Regala to the square in front of the former Royal Castle. Numerous personnel wearing olive green uniforms were always seen near the ministry. Their uniforms looked like those of Romanian officers but had other devices which source was unable to describe.
6. Prior to mid-November 1951, a Romanian office was located at 62 Strada Eminescu, formerly Strada Romana. Romanian civilians led by some soldiers were frequently observed assembling there. Fifty to 60 persons, apparently inducted into military service, were last observed departing from there in mid-October 1951. The office personnel chiefly consisted of Romanian officers and a few soldiers. The office building was decorated with pictures of Lenin and Stalin, flew the Romanian flag and the Soviet flag and was guarded by military sentries.
7. Another Romanian office [redacted] 25X1 was opened to the public in the spring of 1951. It was staffed with Romanian officers wearing caps with bands in various colors, including red and yellow. Many of these officers had sedans. The building, a four-story former dwelling house, was guarded by military sentries. Beginning in the spring of 1951, officers, NCOs, and soldiers of the former Romanian Army had to report there to turn in and receive military service documents and to be screened for political reliability. Persons considered unreliable had their documents returned and were told that they would be summoned again at a later date. Residents said that chiefly members of younger classes were inducted to military exercises for 8 to 12 weeks, some of them as early as the spring or summer of 1951.
8. Prior to the fall of 1951, the almaison barracks on the west side of Calea Plevnei was occupied by Romanian troops. [redacted] 25X1
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9. On 23 August 1951, [redacted] the Romanian military post in Bucharest which involved units of the Romanian Army, Air Force and Security Corps, and units of the Communist Party; no Soviet units were involved. [redacted] a small number of T-34 tanks, two batteries each of 4 heavy guns towed by caterpillar tractors, light and heavy AA units, infantry elements composed of detachments of various units, and mortar units including horse-drawn elements. The Security Corps participated with units in the strength of two battalions and with units of an officer candidate school. The rear of the review was brought up by party units which were called Batalioane de Aparare or Defense battalions. Personnel of some of these units wore uniforms as early as August 1951. They carried carbines and submachine guns while passing in review. [redacted] some personnel of these units kept their uniforms at home. Others kept their guns under lock at designated places. [redacted] the brother of Redu's (fau), Romanian Minister of War, was the commanding officer of these party units and heard in a conversation that some of personnel of these defense battalions received special training in street fighting.

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